Old Frank Johnson's Orchestra Discoursed Music That Was Not Classi-

Frank S. Woodson in Newport News Morning Herald.

Sousa came and he captured the town. Sousa is a great man and he has a great band. His music is something wonderful. I sat there in the Academy of Music simply entranced, for a while, but really before he had gotten through with the programme and the encores I had begun to get a little more than enough. That was not Sousa's fault I guess, but rather the fault of my very faulty musical education and training.

I love to hear good music and I simply dote on a band but I confess that I got tired of Sousa. Well, as I was coming out of the academy I his playing is too classical for my ear, tap of the drum-But this I well know and know quite Johnson's band.

Old Frank Johnson's band! My! My!! My!!! What memories the mere mention of that wonderful musical aggregation brings up! Why, democrat, but he was not a fighter, away back yonder when I was a bare- and he didn't like the music of the bulfooted village boy, I could follow that lets. He threw up the sponge early in band for miles or sit and listen to its the struggle and took his band back sweet music for hours, yes, for days, to the banks of the Roanoke where he if it could have played so long, and I never got tired, either.

slave owned by a wealthy Roanoke river farmer, whose broad acres were located in Northampton county, N. C. He bought himself, on a credit, and in a like manner purchased the freedom of his wife. His old master threw in the five or six children, all boys, for good measure. Johnson was a natural-born musician and could play any instrument he had ever seen. but his specialties were the fiddle, (no violins in those good old days, but fiddles) the clarionet and the cornet.

and his family's freedom by fiddling this, by the way, was the last effort of

goodly fortune. He was known as "Old" Frank Johnson when I was born and I don't know how long before. I never knew He was as black as the ace of spades, but be it understood he was no common musician, no ordinary fiddler. He was an aristocrat, too, he was; a regular "'fore de wah" aristocrat and if any "po' white trash" had offered to employ him to furnish band music for a poor folks' pienic or orchestra music for a country dance that "po' white trash" would have been smothered beneath the withering scorn and righteous indignation of this ebonyhued old Roanoke river aristocrat. He played only for aristocrats, and was

always well paid. All of his sons were musicians and back yonder in the fifties when, I, then but a tot, first knew of Old Frank Johnson he had ten sons, and four or five musically inclined nephews, all named Johnson and all tolerably black, none being brighter than "ginger cake." When I and forty other lads of the village used to walk, not run, miles to meet the band when it had been amnounced that "Old Frank Johnson is coming to town," I knew the given names of all the sons, but I have forgotten them now except John and Edward and Cephas and Frank,

Well, Old Frank Johnson made up a brass band of this family of sons and nephews, about fifteen or sixteen strong. Old Frank blew the clarionet; John Johnson, his eldest son, the corthe big brass horn, and Frank, Jr., the big bass drum, the symbals and the long drwn-out trombone and all make up a complete brass band. All the Johnsons were fiddlers or banjo pickers or flute blowers, and the business of this great North Carolina musical aggregation was to furnish field and lawn music for aristocratic tournaments, picnics, etc., and dancing music for the inevitable grand ball that followed at night. Sometimes the band played at big democratic barbacues and speakings; but never at a Whig gathering. Old Frank Johnson was a democrat as well as an aristocrat, and he would have died before he would have allowed his band to play at a Whig meeting. Old Frank Johnson's band was known all over Northampton, Halifax, Edgecombe, Warren, Nash and Granville counties in North Carolina and was always in demand.

In summer time the band played at the Springs and there was every year a scramble between Kittrell's springs in Granville county, Jones' and Shocco Springs in Warren, and Buffalo springs just across the Virginia line, for Old Frank Johnson's summer service. Generally either Shocco or Jones' would get him and sometimes (the two places being only two miles apart) they took him jointly, the band playing at one place one day and one night and at the other the next and that is how I came to know all about Old Frank Johnson's band.

When the band was at Jones' or Shocco it came into the town of Warrenton, eight miles distant, once a week or maybe once a fortnight to at our request, furnished The Messenplay in the court house yard in the afternoon and for a ball at Brownlow's hotel at night and the dancers at the springs, and all the regions round about, came in too.

What balls these were and what balls those were at Shocco and Jones'! No germans in those days-square dances all the time-and, O, my, how Old Frank Johnson could call the figures: "Balance All." "Swing Your Partner," "Ladies' Change," "Back Again, Doocee-do," "Swing Corners All," etc., etc.

And when the great long ball room in Brownlow's hoiel was filled with those happy dancers there was a scene of beauty and chivalry the like of which we don't witness in these days. I don't know that women as a general rule were any prettier or lovelier or men handsomer or nobler in those days than now, but some how I can't help from thinking they were. I was mighty young then, and maybe not capable of judging, but visions of those handsome people who danced to Old Frank Johnson's music in Warrenton and at Shocco Springs, and Jones' Springs are flitting before me now; I see them just as I saw them then, and really I hardly ever catch a glimpse of a young woman now-a-days who looks near so pretty to my eyes as do those I behold in the vision.

Yes, beautiful women and handsome or five sisters, all stately and beauti- grace which constituted the ideal in his not been made public.

THE BAND THAT EXCELLED SOUSA ful: Miss Sue Williams, Miss Pauline day, and was the despair of the clumsy Memories of the Haleyon Days When | zie and Annie Plummer, the Edwards | a dancer gave new life to his fiddle-Martin, Miss Martha Washington, Miss Lalla Fittz, Misses Maria and Fannie Southerland and pretty little Kate Southerland, Miss Belle Bullock, Miss Meta Swain, Miss Elizabeth Green, the accomplished and beautiful daughters of Colonel Mason Wiggins, and a hundred others, all beautiful and highly educated and all richly attired and befeweled.

And the men: Ben Wade, Tom Cook, Jim Somerville, William White, John Dugger, Wm. H. Cheek, Dr. Foote, his son John played better, I verily be-Walter Montgomery, Horace Mayfield, George Bellamy, Bill Alston, Phil Norwood, Ned Plummer, Austin Green, Colonel Tom Jones, Peter Mitchell, Blount Plummer, Elias Carr, Walter Plummer, Ned Allen, Tom Skinner and a host of others, all handsome and chivalrous and most graceful dancers. Well, bye and bye, the war came along, Shocco and Jones' Springs were

permanently closed. Warmenton was deserted by these handsome men who went to northern Virginia to fight unwill Sousa play so much classical all these beautiful women quit dancmusic; why does he not confine him- ing and went to sewing and praying self to his own grand marches." I for the handsome, brave soldiers who hadn't thought of it before, but maybe had left home and friends at the first

A rich Roanoke river farmer who well: in the years long gone by I was had been made a confederate colonel never known to get tired of old Frank hired Old Frank Johnson's band to make battle music for the boys who wore the gray and carried him and his band to the front.

Old Frank was an aristocrat and a occasionally played for a country in that style, or a couple of dancers dance. Dances were not much in favor Old Frank Johnson was a negro during the dark days of the war, so business was dull, and bye and bye he had to condescend to call figures for "po' white trash."

After the war Old Frank Johnson for a few more picnics and balls, but he was now too cld and times were too much out of joint.

his band was in the summer of 1866. He played at Halifax, N. C., for an old fashioned tournament in the morning He earned the money to pay for his and for the coronation ball at night, and for balls and dances, and then made a the old time aristocracy of that section sort of melandcholy reminder of depart- sion of his visit. to revive the ante-bellum festivities and it was a dismal failure. Too many of the old time aristocrats had gone to the wall in the crash of '65. They made him to be called by any other name. a sickly showing at the Halifax tournament, and the "po' white trash" went to the front. An overseer's son caught the most rings at the tilting and crowned the daughter of the county jailer, queen of love and beauty.

> Old Frank Johnson died the next suspicion that the Halifax tournament, so disastrous to the ante-bellum aristocrocy, broke his aristocratic old heart all to flinders.

Old Frank Johnson's band never play-Frank ever heard of classical music. but his music suited me and I never got tired listening to "Katie Wells," "Gentle Fairy Belle," "Who'll Take Sugar In His Coffee," "Mocking Bird," 'My Dark Virginia Bride," "Old Folks At Home," etc.

Sousa's band with its classical music and marches are not a patching to Old Frank Johnson's band as I knew it and heard it and loved it in those good old days, now gone never to return.

By the way, I wonder what has be come of all those handsome young men so gracefully to that sweet music! Pines, some at Cold Harbor, some on the works at Petersburg and a number of them in the Wilderness, but some net; Cephas, the tenor horn: Edward, Frank Johnson, they loved fiddle music past two weeks, conducting two serand dancing better than they did the beat the snare drum. They also had bullet music and fighting, and they "followed the band back home." And those Jovely women-nearly allare dead, the other horns and things that go to I reckon. I don't know that I can locate a single oneof them. Such as are living I guess are mothers and grandmothers perhaps, but I will wager a gill of buttermilk that never a one of the daughters was ever so beautiful as were their mothers when I used to see them "balancing all" and swinging corners" to the sweet music made by Old Frank Johnson's band.

> The Messenger gladly publishes the above article, sent us by the Hon. B. F. Grady as per his letter below. Meesrs. Jackson & Bell:

I enclose to you for publication a clipping which a few of us older ones have read with unusual interest and pleasure, and which I think hundreds of your readers would delight to read. This account of old Frank Johnson is deficient in that it leaves out his career in the Cape Fear section, and we-my little company of readers-decided to ask you to get Colonel Waddell or some other competent raconteur to supply the deficiency in a supplement to Mr. Woodson's account. My wife thinks, too, that old. Frank played in Clinton after the date of his death as

here given. Yours very truly, B. F. GRADY. Turkey, N. C., Feb. 26, 1901.

At the suggestion of Hon. B. F. Grady, the Hon. A. M. Waddell has, ger his reminiscences of "Old Frank Johnson," which we publish beyow:

The foregoing article was handed to me with the request that I would supplement it with some of my own reminicences of "Old Frank Johnson," and in complying with the request it is difficult to say whether the disposition to laugh or to weep predominates. Old Frank's career was by no means confined to the Roanoke and Warren sections of the state. He lived for some time in Wilmington, and, I think, died here, or very soon after he left here. For some years prior to 1852 he played at the commencement balls at the University, when the dining room of Miss Nancy Hilliard's hotel was used for the purpose, and reference to this was made in my centennial oration at the University in 1895. His "band" sometimes went out of the state to play at balls and parties-one notable occasion being the marriage of a Raleigh gentleman in South Carolina in 1857, at which I, with three or four other Wilmingtonians, all of whom are dead, officiated as groomsmen. Old Frank usually wore a stovepipe hat, a stock of the old style instead of a cravat, and a spike tail coat with brass buttons, and was very dignified, and formal, but possessed the characteristic humor of his race. Nothing excited his enthusiasm so much as good dancing-not walking | today it was voted to ask manufacturthrough the figures of a cotillion or reel. men. There were the Somervilles, four but that combination of agility and tions of the proposed curtailment have

Rolf, Miss Nannie Wilson, Misses Liz- or awkward beau. The sight of such girls, as happy a quartette as ever bow, and extorted from him gleeful lived; Miss Rosa Martin, Miss Laura laughter and audible expressions of delight while he played. To call what he and his "band" extracted from their instruments music, in any other sense than may be applied to any lively and stirring sounds from fiddles and octave fluies, would be to the last degree pro- all city churches tomorrow. vincial now-a-days, but they could play the dance music of their time in the rural districts better than any body else-so well indeed that it was difficult for any one to keep still while it | number of gentlemen are being named was going on. His piece de resistance was "Clear the Track,' which he and

effect was electrical. When ordered to Chatham county to raise a company in 1861. I hired Old Frank's band to go with me to stir up the boys, and some of the scenes that ensued have never been paralleled in my experience. They were paroxysms of revelry, during which patriotism was at fever heat, but in many cases the fever cooled off with the cessation of music, as was illustrated in one case by a strapping young fellow who after | heard a young lady say: "Oh, why der Beauregard, Jackson and Lee, and dancing in the middle of the county road in a sort of frenzy, excused himself for not enlisting with the pathetic remark that he was as anxious as any man to fight for his country, but that he "had a powerful misery in his breast and was badly corrupted.'

I think the first time I ever heard Old Frank was at a Sound party at Wrightsville. Having for a partner in the dance a very spirited and pretty the old fellow rose from his seat with the fiddle still under his chin, and bowing but continuing to play, exclaimed: "Dat's de thing! Please God railway and thence to the union depot. hit 'mind me o' when I was young." Imagine the leader of a ball-room or- cent; in fact, he spent a short while chestra of the present day turning loose cutting the pigeon wing as we did! But there can be no doubt that we had more fun, and enjoyed ourselves more that was sent to the Galveston sufthan the moderns.

Old Frank was himself a remarkably fine dancer, and sometimes, after the partially revived his band and played ladies had retired, the young men would order wine or stronger drink for him, and, when he became a little thawed, would make John play and The last time I saw the old man and have an exhibition of the old fellow's skill in the art. He was really graceful, and as agirl as an acrobat. The result of the war left him, as it

did his quondam patrons, stranded, and he moved about, a pathetic figure-a ed joys-and he rapidly faded out of life, and finally departed to the land This is the colored man who in life so "where the good old niggers go." A. M. W.

University Notes.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Chapel Hill, March 9. year, and I have always had a lurking the many candidates for positions on Carolina's 1901 team have been out each afternoon, working hard. The bright. Of last year's players, in 'vared classical music, don't reckon Old sity and scrub, the following are back. Messrs. Wilcox, J.; Foust, Battle, Graves, Holt, Harrington, Graves, Carr, Graham, A. W.; Donnelly, Graham, G. Oldham, Brem, and among the new

players are Pendleton, Cocke, Cunning-

ham, McAden and others. All the men

seem to be determined to make a win-

ning nine. Each position is hotly contested and the final line-up no doubt will be a winning team. Interest in track athletics, heretofore an undeveloped feature of our life, is now very great. Candidates for the track team are practicing daily in doors and beautiful women who used to dance and after the 15th they will begin regular out door work. It is probable that Many of the men fell in battle, some 45 the university will send a team to comearly as Manassas, some at Seven pete for the southern collegiate track

in the spring. Mr. Weston R. Gales, the noted of them never fell in battle. Like Old evangelist, has been on the Hill the vices a day, last week in the university chapel and this week in the Methodist church, all of which were largely attended. A great deal of interest was aroused and his visit has been very

events to be held in New Orleans later

profitable to the student body. Professor M. C. S. Noble, professor of pedagogy, delivered the regular faculty lecture on Thursday night in Gerrard hall. A large audience heard him on the interesting subject, "Fort Fisher and the Southern Blockade." Illustrated by charts, he showed the position of that celebrated fort and for an hour he told of the heroic fight there. His description of the brave blockade runners was particularly thrilling. It was one of the most enjoyable and instructive of all the lectures yet given.

The fraternities and literary societies have co-operated this year and will jointly issue The College Annual, which will be truly representative of all sides of college life. The editors have been recently elected and are now hard at work preparing matter. The name of the annual before was "Hellenian;" hereafter it will be known as "The

Jackety-Jack." Much interest is felt here in the inter-collegiate debates, to take place this spring between this university and University of Georgia at Athens and between Carolina and Vanderbilt university to be held here. Both questions are now vital ones in America's life-"The Great Trust Problem." Carolina has the misfortune to be on the unpopular debaters are now preparing themselves well and they can be depended on to change people's opinion and to bring jury. back more victories for their alma mater. Out of four debates against Georgia, we have won all except the first and we were also the winners of the first debate against Vanderbilt, held last year in Nashville, Tenn. These two great forensic contests are the most interesting things for the that the child found was of white par-

spring term. Messrs. Cole and Holliday, the celebrated photographers, of Durham, have been here the past few weeks doing the regular annual photographic work for the university. All the classes, clubs, fraternities, organizations, etc., have had their groups taken and the seniors have had individual photographs taken which, according to an old custom here, they exchange with each other before commencement.

Chapel Hill is now thoroughly equipped with a modern telephone system, just completed. There are about fifty subscribers in the village and long distance connection can be had with Durham, Raleigh ,etc.

The foundations of the Mary Ann Smith dormitory building are about completed and work is progressing steadily on the building.

Fall River Milis to Reduce Production Fall River, Mass., March 11.-At a meeting of the selling committee of the Fall River cotton manufacturers ers to curtail production. The condiGOLDSBORO GOSSIP.

the Orphan Asylum from the Galveston Relief Fund.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Goldsboro, March 9. Rain or shine, there will be service in

The question of mayoralty is the talk day and night. True, there is but one avowed candidate, but quite a as desirable timber. Among these are Earle A. Humphrey and H. B. Parklieve, than anybody in the world. Its er, Jr. Either of these gentlemen would make both an aggressive and progressive official, being specially qualified for the important position. The idea of a young man for the executive head of the city government is fastening itself upon our people.

Mrs. Peacock, relict of Mr. Lawrence Peacock, of Brogden township, a sisterof Mrs. D. H. Bridgers, of this city, died last night, in her 73rd year of age, as result of the grippe.

I have been asked to name the incorporators of the Atlantic and Northwestern Railroad Company. Among them are: A. W. Cormick, A. H. Martin, J. W. Edwards and Earle A Humphrey. There are some four or five other capitalists behind the movement. Work of construction of the line to Seven Springs, I am told, will begin as soon as a survey of the route can be completed. The line will subsequently girl, we both capered so vigorously that | run to Richlands, Jacksonville and Swansboro, in Onslow county. Entrance will be made at East Goldsboro on the Atlantic and North Carolina

Captain A. J. Galloway is convales on our streets today, to the delight of many friends.

The superintendent of the orphans' home is receivink some of the money ferers by the Odd Fellows of the state. This money was not needed and 50 per cent. is being returned to all parts of the United States. Oxford lodge was the first to send the money to the orphans' home-amount, \$12.50. It is presumed many other lodges will do like-

Mr. L. D. Giddens has returned from an extended visit to Mobile, Ala. Ha is in splendid trim and says he was right royally entertained on the occa-

Elijah Jones is dead and buried. annoyed passengers at the cars by taking hold of their baggage, etc. Many times he was before the courts as a nuisance. It is rumored some one in the city held a policy for his life.

The board of aldermen met last night, in called session and named The weather of the past few days has the following registrars for the May been ideal for base ball practice and election: First ward, M. L. Lee; Second ward, K. E. Bizzell; Third ward, I. H. Bain; Fourth ward, W. D. Creech. The board arranged to put in a num- sale. ber of extra carts in order to give the prospects for a good team are very city a thorough cleaning before spring opens. The street committee were instructed to begin the posting of streets and numbering of houses, so as to be ty. He did not apply for his commisready for the introduction of the free will put in effect about July.

Our young townsman, Mr. Phil Dortch, will leave shortly for Chicago, where he will locate as an electrician. Last night's german was a decidedly | ing the governor appointed Dobson. pleasant one. The music was furnished by the Knights of Pythias band or-

chestra. Last fall Bessie, the 8-year-old daughter of Mr. E. W. Powell, stuck a needle in her foot. Yesterday this needle came through the top of the foot. She has not complained these months of any pain or inconvenience, but was careful was necessary.

Representative N. W. Taylor, of Carteret, passed through for Beaufort on a sick furlough,

Dr. Geo. Butler, Mrs. Butler and children left today for Alexandria City, Ala. They will stop en route at Lau- ter the regular legislative session ends rinburg over Sunday.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Goldsboro, N. C., March 11. H. E. Newbury, of Magnolia, suffered the loss of his tube rose conservatory by fire on Saturday last. The pecuniary loss sustained is about \$1,-000. The tube rose industy is quite

large in that section, many acres being cultivated yearly. The funeral of Mrs. Abadiah H Humphrey, who passed away on Saturday last was held this afternoon. conducted by Rev. Charles A. Jenkins, of the First Baptist church, of which the deceased was a member. Mrs. Humphrey was in her 68th year of age and has been in poor health several months. Besides her aged husband she leaves two grown children both

of whom are married. There was considerable excitement here yesterday, the result of the finding of the dead body of an infant buried near the city, the circumstances Springs; New River Valley; Charlotte being of a suspicious nature. Mr. L. | Monroe and Columbia; Thomasville and M. Adams, a farmer residing near the city, was out walking and as he came to the Powell burying ground discovered a newly made grave. This arroused his suspicion as the spot is a secluded one, besides no known inter- | Winston, Murfreesboro and Mayodan, ment had taken place there for quite and has given the following counties awhile, and he digged into the little complete prohibition: Sampson, Madimound and at a short depth found a son. Duplin, Cumberland, Bladen affirmative side in each debate, but our box containing the child. He at once Yancey and Clary. The following in reported the matter to the coroner, Dr. Thomas Hill, who impanelled a

The infant was wrapped in a copy of The Morning Post of the issue of Sunday, November 25, 1900. The burial evidently took place since the snowfall of two weeks ago as buggy tracks were very plain. While there was no finding to that effect, it is surmised ents. The jury returned to the city and concluded their hearing, their verdict being that the child came to its death in a manner and by the hands of some person or persons to the jury unknown.

The 8-year-old daughter of Mr. T. R. Tyndall was burned to death by fire last week near Snow Hill. The little girl, with a sister, were out in a field and with some matches undertook penitentiary appointed Saturday are to start a fire when its dress caught on from east of Raleigh, save one. He is fire and the little child was soon envel. from Richmond, which is but little west oped in flames.

L. V. Morrill, of Snow Hill, the atpassed through for Raleigh. Mr. Morrill says there is no smallpox nearer than seven miles of Snow Hill and that the disease is abating. A. W. Falkener is again confined to

his home with the grippe. It is feared that he is threatened with pneumonia. of sufferers have proved their match-Elder Whittle, a mormon, came in less merit for Sick and Nervous head-Elder Whittle, a mormon, came in town today from Mt. Olive accompanied by J. J. Price and family, who will accompany the elder to Utah. The Price family consists of Mr. and Mrs. Price and seven children, three sons

and four daughters. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Justice, of Marion, spent a few hours here today.

GENERAL SATISFACTION

The Mayoralty Question-Money for At the \$200,000 Appropiration by the Legislature for the Public Schools Many Legislators Go Home-Rapid Registration of North Carolina Bonds Messenger Bureau,

Paleigh, March 9. The general belief is that the house will, nominally at least, maintain its organization until the senate finishes the impeachment matter. This, it is thought, will take until the end of March. The trial will be long. It cannot be limited.

The action of the house last night in appropriating directly \$200,000 to the public schools gives great and general satisfaction. One man said today he understood that there was \$175,000 in the treasury, arising from the sale of swamp lands and that it was proposed to use this. The state treasurer says that there is barely \$30,000 of this fund. The joint committee on appropriations was in session until nearly

o'clock this morning. There is some difference of opinion as to what the revenue will be. The prevailing opinion is that it will be something like \$1,500,000. The pressure for appropriations was never so great as at present A number of members of the legislature went home today. There was a rush for pay. It was the last pay day of the sixty days allowed by law. The members will be here Monday Seventy-five members of the house are under pledge to remain until the senate finishes all its work.

The lynching of Martindale, the white rapist, at Carthage, is the first in the state in a year. The people were greatly excited because they found that he had committed another crime upon his sister-in-law, and had threatened to kill her if she ever betrayed him. The revenue bill has been pruned s

as to make it quite satisfactory. The anti-trust bill which has passed is virtually the Texas law, with the latest supreme court opinions embodied The attorneys for the impeached judges made no point as to the right of the senate, but have never said they would not make a point if the senate sat as a court of impeachment after the house adjourned.

North Carolina bonds are being registered in great numbers. Treasurer Lacy says he has issued more registered bonds in the past two months than were issued in the six years previous and says this shows that they are regarded as a stable investment.

> Messenger Bureau, Raleigh, March 11.

A prominent director of the Seaboard Air Line said today that the rumor of its purchase by the Louisville and Nashville was unfounded, and intimated that these systems had effected close traffic arrangements. President Williams, of the Seaboard, passed here yesterday and said there had been no

Letters today from Surry county tel of a queer state of affairs. At the las election Mr. Dobson was elected solicitor of the criminal court for that counsion until after Governor Aycock took delivery system that the government office. The latter then issued the commission, as he did that of Senator Simmons and those of the congressmen because they were elected. Now many people in Surry are raising a row, say

The supreme court will devote this week to appeals from the Sixth district. The docket is a light one.

This was the day set for the beginning of the impeachment trial of Judges Furches and Douglas. The pressure of the legislative business is so great that but little can be done in the trial this week, as the senators' time will be when a shoe was purchased for her, to practically all taken up. The seats in insist upon a number much larger than | the senate were entirely rearranged today, so as to give the accused judges and their counsel and the house board of managers and their counsel seats it the center.

The judges do not raise any question as to the right of the senate to sit af as a court of impeachment, or its righ to be paid as a court. The house resu lution names \$4 a day as the pay, bu really it is not limited. The house will not adjourn sine die, but will take recess until about April 1st.

The directors of the insane asylum at Raleigh will tomorrow elect a superintendent. There are five or six aspirants. Among these Senator Speight of Edgecombe, is prominent.

The legislature has thus far granted charters to the following roads. Wasington and Plymouth; Southport and Wilmington; Atlantic and Northwestern; Santeetla; Elkin and Alleghany: French Broad and Southern; White Oak River and Onslow; Raleigh and Virginia; South and Western. Greenville and Vanceboro; Scotland Neck and Roanoke; Hilton; Southport and Northwestern; Blue Ridge and At lantic; Duplin and Onslow; Trent River and Cape Fear; Rutherfordton; Marion and Northwestern: Jackson Eldorado; Asheville and Weaverville: Rutherfordton, Hickorynut Gap and Asheville: Atjantic and Northwestern; Kenansville Air Line.. The legislature has established dispensaries at Tarboro, surance companies have been granted chartes: Security Life and Annuity: Southern Manufacturers' Mutual; Directly after the adjournment of the

legislature the newly created state highway commission will met to formulate plans for aiding the counties. At this time fifteen countles are macadamizing roads, among these being Mecklenburg, Wake, Alamance, Durham. Guilford, Rowan, Cabarrus, New Hanover, Haywood, Buncombe, Rockingham, Gaston and Anson. A number of counties are now adopting legislation to inaugurate road improvement, among these being Granville, Person, Orange, Wilson, Catawba, Union and Lincoln. There is some criticism of the fact that all of the new directors of the of here. Travis, of Halifax; Mann, of Hyde; O'Berry, of Wayne; Browne, of torney for the Great Eastern railroad, Columbus, and Crosslands, or Richmond, are the directors.

That Throbbing Headache

Would quickly leave you, if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands aches. They make pure blood and strong nerves and build up your health Easy to take. Try thew. Only 25 cents. Money back if not cured. Sold by R. R. Bellamy, druggist.

Eight persons are killed by the explosion of a boiler in a Chicago laundry. SERIOUS LOSS BY FIRE

A Country Residence Burned-Reception at the Manse-New Furniture Business-More Industrial Progress.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.) Fayetteville, March 9.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Mc-Pherson, living a few miles west of this city, in Seventy-first township, lost by fire about all his property-his dwelling and out-houses, with all the household effects, without a dollar of insurance, as the writer is informed. The family is one of the best in the upper Cape Fear section, Mr. McPherson having been a faithful soldier, while his wife was Miss Lizzie Holmes, daughter of the late Lieutenant General

Theophilus Holmes. Last evening the "G. T. Club." of the Presbyterian congregation, entertained their friends with a pleasant reception at the manse, where the committee, Mrs. R. H. Boyd, Mrs B. M. Fairley, and Misses Robbie Hall and Kate D. McKethan, offered an attractive programme of amusements with an appetizing supper served during the

A new firm will soon open a furniture business in the Williams building on Hay street, occupying the tenement adjoining the grocery store of Captain A. Garrison, offering an immense floor space for the most extensive line of

The dispensary troubles will not 'down" at anybody's "bidding." Mr. J. W. Ingold has just been elected dispensary manager for a year, at a salary of \$2,500. As an office, with its emoluments, has been held to be property. is there danger of litigation here, even though the institution has just been abolished by legislation?

The financial difficulties of the Australis Manufacturing Company, whose suspension of business was recently noted by The Messenger correspondent. will be settled in full by Mr. Paul Johnson, of Cleveland, one of the stockholders in the enterprise.

Nine heirs will share equally in the large landed and personal estate, valued at \$100,000, left by the late Mrs. Rachael McCarmick.

Fayetteville, March 11. The new business enterprise foreshadowed by the Messenger correspondent a few days since is now an accomplished fact, papers of incorporate ration having been granted to Messrs. R. W. Bidgood, J. R. Williams and W. J. McDiarmid, men of first rate business standing and ability, who form a company for the manufacture of pants. shirts, trousers and other garments of that and different material. The factory will lease the old flour warehouse belonging to the city, a large brick building on Person street.

Mr. J. E. Garrett, a notary public, will next Thursday near the preliminary proceedings in the contest of John E. Fowler, of Sampson county, for the seat in congress now occupied by Hon. Charles R. Thomas. Fowler will be represented by Mr. A. S. Hall, and Thomas by Mr. H. L. Cook. A "cloud of witnesses" from all over cumberland will testify at the trial.

The Fayetteville, Holt-Williamson, Holt-Morgan and Sholar, Holt and Hart cotton factories, in accordance with the agreement made at a recent conference of mill men, are now working their operatives 11 hours a day, a reduction of half an hour in the time.

Mr. W. H. Pope, an attorney of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, well known in Wilmington, is now at the Marsh-Highsmith sanitarium in this city, having been taken quite sick at Florence, S. C.

Mr. R. L. Williams has been delightfully entertaining, at his country home, "Cottondale," the following house party: Mrs. J. B. Underwood, Jr., chaperone, and Misses Lillian Slocomb, Kate Haigh, Ellen Underwood, Kate Harley and Bessie Underwood.

Captain J. D. McNeill, state sensor for this district, spent Sunday at home. He thinks that, while it is hard to please everybody, the recent legisla on ought to give satisfaction all around. The dispensaryites have their pet institution till July; the anti-dispensaryites have its repeal after that date; the prohibitionists have a dry town and county until the next general election, and then all the people have a vote on the matter.

Mr. Benjamin T. McBryde, a prominent citizen of Carver's Creek township, has been making an extensive jourey through Mississippi. Louislana and Texas.

Mr. S. B. Dozier, Jr., has been paying a visit to his sister. Mrs. D. S. MacRae.

Bishop and Mrs. Watson have been for the last day or two welcome guests of Major and Mrs. B. R. Huske at their lovely home on Masonic square. Mr. John Atkinson, of Rocky Mount,

Devastated by a Tornado. Dallas, Texas, March 9.-A tornado this afternoon demolished half of the town of Willis Point on the Texas and Pacific railroad. At least three persons were killed.

has been enjoying a few days' vacation

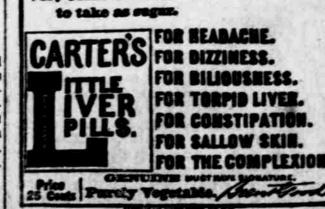
at home.

Cenuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

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CURE SICK HEADACHE.